

Vote No. 275 was on final passage of a bill Making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall Vote No. 275.

COMMENDING THE SERVICE AND SPIRIT OF SISTER JEANNE O'LAUGHLIN UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE PRESIDENCY OF BARRY UNIVERSITY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the long and dedicated service of Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin, who will step down as president of Barry University on June 30, 2004.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Jeanne has been an exemplary leader at Barry University since taking office 23 years ago, in 1981. A tireless and enthusiastic promoter, she has helped to raise more than \$200 million for her school, sometimes through humorous means, such as competitive ballroom dancing and singing at a fundraiser aboard a yacht.

Sister Jeanne has made an enormously positive impact on the academic environment at Barry University. At the time of her inauguration, Barry University had 1,750 students. It now boasts 9,042, the fourth largest private university in Florida. Sister Jeanne has presided over an increase in the number of academic schools from five to ten, and the construction of 38 additional buildings on campus.

Her multiple awards, achievements and honorary degrees, too many to list here, testify to her boundless energy, her spirit of goodwill, and her commitment to excellence in education. Her work on behalf of women's rights, the homeless, safe and drug-free school communities, hurricane reconstruction efforts, children, and numerous other organizations has had a lasting impact in South Florida. Simply put, her efforts have touched hundreds of thousands of lives.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Jeanne more than deserves our admiration and respect for her dedicated and compassionate public service. She is an example to educators everywhere, and, really, to us all as individuals, that superior results arise when you put your heart and soul into something you believe in. As Sister Jeanne has said, what she is "most proud of in my 23 years at Barry University are the experiences that I've had with the people who have been in my life."

I wish to congratulate and thank Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin, and I wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors.

TENTH YEAR OF NATIONAL HIV TESTING DAY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the AIDS Services

Foundation of Orange County, California in recognizing the tenth year of National HIV Testing Day, a life saving effort organized by the National Association of People with AIDS. This year's theme is "Take the test, and take control" of your life.

Each year, an estimated 40,000 new HIV infections occur in the United States, and as many as one-third of those new cases do not know they are infected. This growing and tragic epidemic has undeniably affected families and friends of every community. National HIV Testing Day emphasizes the importance of early detection of the virus through testing, counseling and HIV status awareness.

Latino populations continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS. While Latino teens represent 15 percent of the U.S. population, they account for 21 percent of new AIDS cases. And statistics show HIV infections may be on the rise among the Latino population.

I am privileged to promote National HIV Testing Day by urging minority communities to take the test, and to take control of their lives. The reality is minority communities now represent the majority of new AIDS cases. Considering this fact, we must encourage testing. Since 1995, treatment advances have led to dramatic declines of approximately 70 percent in HIV-related deaths.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County for the very important contributions and services they provide to those affected by HIV and AIDS. As Members of Congress, let's do our part to protect our constituents and to promote National HIV Testing Day.

HONORING ISABELLE WADSWORTH OF PETALUMA, CA ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Isabelle Wadsworth of Petaluma, California, on the occasion of her 90th birthday. A good friend, a wise woman, and a great mind, Isabelle's active life is a model for all of us who value community leadership and visionary spirit.

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1914, Isabelle earned a BA at the University of Arizona and an MA at Northwestern University. In Arizona, she met her future husband, John Wadsworth. They married in 1937 and headed for California shortly thereafter. Initially, John managed a paint store in Santa Barbara and then served in the U.S. Army Air Corps until 1946. During the War, Isabelle moved to Sonoma County where John joined her later. Their daughter Sandra was born in 1948. The couple enjoyed a 63-year marriage. John passed away in 2000.

In 1943, Isabelle began work as an office manager at Sonoma Title Guaranty, eventually joining the Board of Directors from which she retired in the 1960s. Her concern for her community resulted in the creation of Petaluma People's Services, which she helped launch in 1963. Today the organization successfully offers a broad range of services such as counseling, housing, employment assistance, senior services, and other programs.

As a director at Sonoma County Mental Health Services, Isabelle was instrumental in the establishment of Oakcrest, a county mental health facility. She also served on the Sonoma County Grand Jury and was active in the League of Women Voters. She remains politically involved today, following the news closely and commenting freely on the issues.

Daughter Sandi describes Isabelle as "an inspiration and a mentor to me. She taught me the value of being a well-rounded person, exposing yourself to as much as you can and learning about everything."

Mr. Speaker, Isabelle Wadsworth is an inspiration to many of us, especially women who share her passion to make a difference. Her community leadership shows what caring people can accomplish. Happy Birthday, Isabelle.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in this Chamber on June 21, 2004. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 276, 277, and 278.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of Union has under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4568) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by my friend and colleague, Congressman RUSH HOLT.

Yellowstone National Park is the flagship of the National Park Service and is a favorite to millions of visitors each year. Since the first explorers began documenting their discoveries to modern day, the features of Yellowstone National Park have virtually remained the same. The scenic beauty, the thermal features, the volcanic mysteries, the free roaming wildlife are all a throwback to bygone days that continues to captivate the hearts and minds to all who are fortunate enough to witness them.

Mr. Chairman, this wonderful experience should remain available to those who responsibly use a snowmobile to enjoy all that Yellowstone has to offer.

Snowmobiling is a very important recreational activity for many Wisconsin families each winter. In fact, there are over 210,000 registered snowmobiles in my state, and I am concerned this amendment would unnecessarily curtail a popular method of enjoying Yellowstone and negatively impact on the industries snowmobiling supports.